

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

A281.9
St 16

PENDER - NEW HANOVER
COUNTY



1976

ANNUAL
REPORT

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agriculture Stabilization
and
Conservation Service
Burgaw, North Carolina
28425

FOREWORD

At the close of each year the Pender-New Hanover County ASC Committees publish an annual report to keep the public abreast of ASCS operations in the county. ASCS is an organization developed for the purpose of achieving the greatest protection and improvement of the natural resources of the farms in our nation. The goal of the organization is to assure farmers a fair share of the national income.

We have attempted to give a brief explanation of each of the programs administered by the ASCS service during 1976. We hope that through this report we can promote a clearer understanding of ASCS's purpose and function.

We greatly acknowledge the efforts put forth by the committeemen, farmers, other agricultural agencies, our District Director, and our State Office Staff, to make our operation a success in the Pender-New Hanover County office during 1976.

The Pender County office is located in the county seat, Burgaw, N. C., on highway 117A south. A sub office is maintained in Wilmington, located in the post office building at Front and Chestnut Streets. Our office hours are from 8:00 a. m. to 5:00 p. m. Monday through Friday in Pender and 8:00 a. m. until 5:00 p. m. Monday through Wednesday in New Hanover.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

STATE COMMITTEE

John R. Jones
Homer Tolbert
Harry L. Robertson
Robert L. Hill, Jr.
Grady J. Hunter

STATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

W. T. Reece

DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Alfred Willetts

PENDER COUNTY ASC COMMITTEE

James V. Eakins
T. E. Batson
C. T. Carr

NEW HANOVER COUNTY ASC COMMITTEE

J. D. McCarley, III
Albert D. Cox
M. S. Emmart, Jr.

COUNTY OFFICE PERSONNEL

Casper Wells
Elsie J. English
Della M. Herring
Betty L. Moore
Lucille P. Rivenbark
Willa C. McGugan

1976 ASC COMMUNITY COMMITTEEMEN

BURGAU UPPER

Thomas Cowan
Clifton Hardison
Baxter Wells

BURGAU LOWER

Harvey Batson
John Leimone
Wiley Batson

CANETUCK

B. Z. Corbett
Eugene Pridgen
Jack Meeks

CASWELL

Jack Woodcock
N. C. Corbett
Sidney Simpson

COLUMBIA UPPER

L. T. Debose
Paul Wells
Carlos Cockman

COLUMBIA LOWER

George Highsmith
E. T. Spencer
A. C. Bond

GRADY

Mack L. Bell
L. H. Caison
Larry Wooten

HOLLY

G. T. Lanier
Denver Hollingsworth
Odell Noble

LONG CREEK

Jerry Fennell
H. A. Peay
Pearly Crews

ROCKY POINT

R. L. Batts
Katie Hutcheson
Charles Pearsall

TOPSAIL UPPER

Robert King
E. N. Sidbury
William Edens

TOPSAIL LOWER

T. W. Shingleton
Cecil Thomas
Rupert L. Piver

UNION UPPER

William English
John H. Giddens
Earl Brock

UNION LOWER

Maurice Anderson
John T. Hall
James Wilkins

PRICE SUPPORT

Price support programs are administered by ASCS to aid the farmer in obtaining fair prices for what he produces and to promote orderly marketing.

FARM STORAGE AND DRYING EQUIPMENT LOANS

Loans are made available to producers to finance the purchase of farm storage facilities and drying equipment.

FARM STORAGE STRUCTURE LOANS

Loans Disbursed	6
Loan Capacity	20,914
Amt. of Loans Disbursed	15,451.83
No. of Outstanding Loans	38
Amt. of Outstanding Loans	76,632.07

DRYING EQUIPMENT LOANS

Loans Disbursed	3
Amt. of Loans Disbursed	13,294.15
No. of Outstanding Loans	17
Amt. of Outstanding Loans	49,368.83

FARM STORED COMMODITY LOANS

Price support commodity loans were available on corn, oats, peanuts, rye, barley and grain sorghum.

Commodity	No.	Amount	Bushels
Corn	24	\$294,159.10	184,940
Soybeans	1	1,012.70	410
Tobacco	1	957.60	

PRODUCTION ADJUSTMENT

The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as enacted on February 6, 1938, contained the first authorization for our present acreage allotment and marketing quota program. The act authorizes acreage allotment and marketing quotas on wheat, tobacco, cotton, peanuts and rice.

Acreage allotment and marketing quotas were designed as a means of keeping supplies of agricultural commodities in line with demand. Marketing quotas must be approved by at least two-thirds of the growers voting in a referendum before they may be placed in effect.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO

Flue-cured tobacco is the number one cash crop in the county. The 1976 crop accounted for approximately \$6,750,000 of the total farm income in the county. The acreage-poundage program put in effect in the county in 1965 was designed to bring production into better balance with demand, improve quality and stimulate exports.

1976 TOBACCO PROGRAM DATA

Number of Allotments	1644
Number of acres allotted	3,343.77
Basic Quota	5,918,161
Undermarketed	1,435,269
Overmarketed	1,403.91
Effective Quota	7,213,039
Total Production	6,059,618
Lease and Transfer	
Farms Leasing tobacco	915
Farms receiving leased tobacco	308
Pounds leased	3,044,079

1976 FEED GRAIN AND WHEAT

All that a feed grain and wheat producer had to do in 1976 to be eligible for target price assurance, loans and other program benefits was to sign up. Disaster payments were made when planting was prevented, or when total production was less than two thirds of the allotment times the program yields because of natural disaster conditions. Substitutions on non-quota crops were allowed for allotment preservation purposes. The loan level for corn was \$1.10 per bushel and \$1.37 for wheat. The target price for corn was \$1.38 per bushel and \$2.05 for wheat.

1976 DATA

WHEAT

No. of Farms	266
Allotment	929.9

FEED GRAIN

No. of Farms	1773
Allotment	16,409.3

DISASTER

Payment Applications Filed	15
Payment Applications approved	6
Total Amount of Payment	\$1,491.30

UPLAND COTTON

The Agricultural and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 enacted August 10, 1973, is applicable to the 1974-77 upland cotton crop years. Highlights of the 1976 upland cotton program were no marketing quotas or penalties, no limit on planted acreage, no cropland set-aside requirement, and no conserving base requirements. There are 91 cotton farms with a total allotment of 170.4 acres in our county. No cotton was planted in 1976.

PEANUTS

Peanuts are considered one of the basic cash crops in our county. Peanut acreage allotments for individual farms are determined on the basis of the past acreage of peanuts, and previous acreage allotments. A referendum was held in December 1974 for the 1975-77 crops of peanuts.

1976 PEANUT PROGRAM DATA

Number of Allotments	176
Number of acres allotted	1408.2
Total acres harvested	1112.4
Total Production	2,103,274
Yield Per Acre	1891
Lease & Transfer	
No. farms leasing peanuts	47
No. farms receiving leased peanuts	34
No. acres leased	334.2

COMPLIANCE

Compliance is an important function in ASCS. In 1976, a new method of compliance was used in Pender-New Hanover County. This method required no acreage report on tobacco. Certification of Acreage was required on peanuts and disaster farms.

DATA FOR 1976

Staking and Referencing Service	1
Measurement Service	0

REGULAR COMPLIANCE PERFORMED

Name of Crop	No. of Farms Measured	No. of Farms Certified
Peanuts	34	102
CAP	4	4

RECONSTITUTIONS

Farms must be reconstituted whenever:

- A. A change has occurred in the operation of the farm.
- B. An owner requests in writing that his land no longer be included in a multiple ownership farm.
- C. The farm is not properly constituted.

STATISTICS

Number Reconstitutions	81
In-County Transfers	6
Out-County Transfers	1

The Cropland Adjustment Program began in 1966, authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into agreements with farmers to divert cropland normally used for the production of feed grain, allotment and non-allotment crops, to conserving and recreational uses.

The period of agreement is for 5 to 10 years. Farmers may receive cost-share payments for establishing an approved conservation or recreation practice. Annual adjustment payments are made each October for acreage placed under agreement.

The designated acreage must be maintained for the duration of the agreements to prevent erosion and control weeds and insects for the farm under agreement must be in compliance.

In 1976, 4 annual payments were made, which amounted to \$1540.00.

1976 ACP AND FIP

County Allocation - ACP	28,299.00
County Allocation - FIP	14,216.00
No. Participating Farms	146
Cost-Share Assistance to Farmers	32,368.00
Small Cost-Share Increase	1,243.00
Gross Assistance to Farmers	33,611.00

There were 4 pooling agreements which amounted to \$733.00, involving 10 farms.

USDA COUNTY EMERGENCY BOARD

A National Defense Board has been established in USDA. Every county has an organized USDA County Emergency Board. The Board is composed of the head of USDA agencies with major defense assignments. The County Executive Director is Chairman of the USDA County Emergency Board.

The Board provides advice and assistance in carrying out defense and related emergency production, processing, and distribution problems in food and agriculture that would follow a nuclear attack; and to provide defense against chemical and biological warfare, as well as radiological fallout in relation to crops and livestock. It is the duty of the Board to act in time of emergency to stabilize the distribution of food, farm equipment and supplies; and to act for the U. S. Department of Agriculture in any areas as needed.

The County USDA Emergency Board has regular meetings at least twice during the year. In December 1976 the USDA Emergency Board met and declared Pender County a disaster area due to extreme weather conditions that existed in the county.

PENDER COUNTY EMERGENCY BOARD MEMBERS

Casper Wells, ASCS, Chairman
Lewis V. Blake, Farmers Home Administration
William F. Walker, County Extension
Larry Goff, Soil Conservation Service

APPRECIATION

OUR SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO:

Pender County Board of Commissioners and Taxpayers for our conveniently located office.

State Office personnel who have been so cooperative and understanding.

Our District Director for his helpfulness, patience and understanding.

Community Committeemen for their loyalty, cooperation and advice.

The Pender Chronicle and Pender Post for relaying articles and news to the public.

Vendors and others who have cooperated so faithfully.

Radio Station WVBS and TV Station WECT for their cooperation in covering our programs.

Other agricultural agencies for their unselfish cooperation in helping to make our programs a success.

And last, but by no means, least, to our farmers for their fine cooperative spirit. We believe the understanding and public relations between the ASCS Office and farmers of Pender and New Hanover counties are unmatched.

OUR CREED

WE AS MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION AND CONSERVATION SERVICE ACCEPT OUR OBLIGATION AND OUR OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE THE PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTY WELL AND IN FULL MEASURE. WE BELIEVE IT IS OUR DUTY...

- * To administer faithfully the federal programs and functions assigned to us.
- * To put loyalty to the highest moral principles above loyalty to persons or party.
- * To serve the public with fairness, courtesy, integrity and understanding.
- * To give a full day's labor for a full day's pay, giving to the performance of our duties earnest effort and our best thought.
- * To develop our personal resources by seeking always to improve the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of our work.
- * To be a good neighbor and a substantial contributor to the general welfare of our community, being mindful of the common sources of all our blessings.

....AND THUS DO OUR PART IN PERFORMING THE ESSENTIAL SERVICES OF THE GOVERNMENT, IN CONSERVING OUR NATIONAL RESOURCES, AND IN FURTHERING THE FREE AND DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS OF OUR COUNTRY.

